

Club Journal

August 2026

The magazine for all CIU members

75p

2026 Dransfields CIU Greyhounds Racenight set for September 18

Sheffield's Owlerton Stadium will be hosting the Dransfields CIU Racenight on Friday, September 18.

This great event is a fantastic opportunity to witness some top-class dog racing on one of the best tracks in the country and to have a good night out with club colleagues.

For the special discounted price of £22, Union members can enjoy a three-course meal in the glass-fronted Panorama Restaurant where you can watch the racing from the comfort of your seat.

As in previous editions of this annual event, a total of 14 races will take place throughout the evening, making for a fast-paced night of action.

Union General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM and other members of the NEC will be attending the event, along with representatives of many of the Union's Preferred Suppliers, including Racenight title sponsors Dransfields.

Even if members of your club can't make it to Sheffield on the night, you



Sheffield's Owlerton Stadium will host the Dransfields CIU Racenight on September 18

can still get involved by taking part in the CIU Greyhound Sweepstake by picking the winning dog in the Dransfields CIU sponsored race (a letter will be sent to your club from Head Office).

To book dinner in the restaurant for the CIU-discounted price of £22 per person, please call the venue direct on 0114 2343074 and quote 'CIU Night'.

This offer is on a 'first-come, first-served' basis so do not delay.

Win a cash prize with the CIU National Lottery Draw



Don't forget to buy your tickets for this month's CIU National Lottery Draw which takes place at 7pm on Tuesday, September 1.

As well as the winner receiving a cash prize, there will also be a five per cent revenue share for the winning member's club.

Tickets cost £1 each and can be purchased online via your computer, tablet or smartphone at the website:

ciu.praxisplay.online

Dransfields CIU Charity Raceday

The 2026 Dransfields CIU National Charity Raceday is on Saturday, November 28 at Doncaster Racecourse.

And this year, the CIU has teamed up with Arena Racing Company to give Union members the opportunity to enjoy a Doncaster Double Header Grandstand Ticket for £35.

Take advantage of this very special CIU ticket bundle which will give you access to the 250th St Leger Day on Saturday, September 12, plus the Dransfields CIU National Charity Raceday on Saturday, November 28.

For both of these fantastic racedays, you will have access to the grandstand, pre-parade ring, parade ring, grandstand public bars and food court.

• See pages 25 for more details of this fantastic double offer

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Sport 34



As you will see on the front page, the 2026 Dransfield CIU Greyhounds Racenight will take place on Friday, September 18.

This annual event, at Sheffield's Owlerton Stadium, is always a fun occasion and there is a special offer available for CIU club members.

You can enjoy a three-course meal in the Grandstand Restaurant, with an unbeatable view of the racing action, for just £22 per person.

As usual, this offer is on a 'first-come, first-served' basis so please reserve your places early to ensure you can join in for this club night out at the dogs.

Also coming up is the 2026 Dransfields CIU National Charity Raceday on Saturday, November 28 at Doncaster Racecourse.

And this year, the CIU has teamed up with Arena Racing Company to give Union members the opportunity to enjoy a Doncaster Double Header Grandstand Ticket for £35.

This special CIU ticket bundle will give you access to the 250th St Leger Day on Saturday, September 12, plus the Dransfields CIU National Charity Raceday on Saturday, November 28.

See page 25 for details of how to book your tickets.

The 'Club of the Month' for August is the Chirton Social Club in North Shields, a really family-orientated

Welcome

venue with activities taking place all year round.

The club is particularly strong on bingo and has come up with a new twist on the traditional format – the 'Double Flyer' – which has proven extremely popular with their members.

For the full profile of the club, please see pages 12-15.

As ever, please get in touch if your club is keen to host the Union's Award in Club Management (ACM) day courses.

The course consists of three day sessions and covers all the key topics concerning running a club.

For further information, contact Senior Head Office Administrator Cath Fitzpatrick at: Catherine.Fitzpatrick@wmciu.org.

Meanwhile, the CIU has fully revised and updated its range of handbooks and contracts and they are now available to order from your local branch.

Please see details in our 'HQ' section on pages 16-17 for the full list of products available.

I hope you enjoy this month's issue.

Stephen Goulding

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CLUB JOURNAL

CIU Editorial Panel



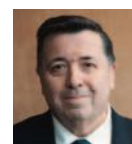
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David Woodburn CMD
NEC Member

Sheerness East Club hosts youth football fundraiser



Sheerness East WMC regularly hosts fundraisers for Sheerness East Youth Football Club

Sheerness East Working Men's Club hosted the neighbouring youth football club's annual end-of-season Fun Day which was open to players, families and the wider local community.

And the weather played its part perfectly – with glorious sunshine throughout the day, crowds turned out in force to enjoy the festivities.

There was plenty to keep everyone entertained. A BBQ was fired up, alongside five bouncy castles, for which children could purchase a £5 wristband granting them unlimited access to the inflatables for the whole day.

There were also additional inflatable toys and, completely free of charge, a balloon-modelling workshop that proved hugely popular with the younger ones.

Live music was provided by local group Loose Connections, who kept the atmosphere buzzing throughout.

One of the highlights of the day was the ever-popular 'Beat the Goalie' challenge, which saw the young men's team step up to help out.

Every participant who managed to score received a medal as a memento of their achievement, which added to the

competitive fun.

The young players didn't stop there – they also lent a hand on the BBQ, cooking and serving throughout the day.

The grill did a roaring trade from 12 noon right through to 5pm, when the team finally called time on the BBQ after overwhelming demand.

Such was the turnout that extra tables and chairs had to be brought out from the hall to accommodate the crowds.

The event was so busy that the organising team barely had a moment to spare – they only managed to capture photos of the setup and the first ten minutes of outdoor action, before being swept up in the non-stop activity.

All funds raised on the day will go towards purchasing new equipment for the youth teams, helping to keep monthly subscription costs as low as possible for families.

The day rounded off perfectly with the screening of live football in the hall, bringing a fantastic day to a close for everyone involved.

Looking ahead, the club is already counting down to the next event in August, hoping for another successful day of community spirit, fun and football.

News in brief



'Bully Boy' Michael Smith to hold exhibition at Penydarren Social Club in early 2027

Top darts player Michael 'Bully Boy' Smith will be coming to Penydarren Social Club on Saturday January 16, 2027 for an Exhibition Night.

Standard tickets for this unmissable event featuring the 2023 PDC World Darts Champion cost £25, while 'Meet & Greet/VIP' tickets are available for £40.

Smith needs little introduction to darts aficionados.

At the 2023 World Championship, he hit a nine-dart finish during the second set of the final against Michael van Gerwen, who missed a dart to complete his own nine-darter in the previous visit; this is widely considered the greatest leg in darts history.

He has won a total of 26 PDC titles in his professional career, including the 2022 Grand Slam of Darts.

For more information on the event which gets underway at 7pm on the night, contact Josh on: 07538769169.

CLUB NOTICES

Clubs affiliated to the Union

Sunnyside Social Club
(Durham Branch)

Clubs fast-tracked affiliation to the Union

Pontnewydd Working Men's Club
(Monmouthshire Branch)

News in brief



'Gary Barlow' and 'Robbie Williams' heading to the Frimley Green Club in December

A tribute show featuring the music of two British musical giants will be taking place at the Frimley Green Club on Saturday, December 19.

The show features Scott Borley as Robbie Williams and Dan Hadfield as Gary Barlow, ensuring a great night of top hits made famous by Take That and Robbie as a solo artist.



Surrey's West Byfleet Social Club to host Open Day on Saturday, August 8

West Byfleet Social Club in Surrey will be hosting a packed Open Day on Saturday, August 8.

The event aims to introduce local people to all that the club has to offer and will feature food, drinks offers, live music and charity stalls.

There is even a chance for new members to receive a reduced annual fee if they sign up on the day.

Wadsley Bridge WMC stages summer bash



Wadsley Bridge WMC is hosting a Reload party on Sunday, August 2

Wadsley Bridge WMC in Sheffield is hosting its 'Biggest Sunday Session of the Summer' on August 2 with outdoor bars, street food and music.

After last year's sell-out crowd, the club is pulling out all the stops for 2026, transforming its impressive outdoor green at the front of the club into a day-long festival-style party.

Members and guests are being urged to dust off their brightest Hawaiian shirts as the venue gears up for a marathon session of non-stop tunes and ice-cold drinks.

Headlining the entertainment will be Reload Sheffield, the 1980s covers duo,

who will take over the stage to keep the dancefloor packed well into the evening.

New for this year is a dedicated outdoor bar plus a separate bottle bar, both fully stocked and serving a selection of drinks including VK and Hooch.

Food will also be available throughout the afternoon, with a rotating line-up of vendors confirmed to keep revellers fuelled between dances.

Tickets are available on the door, but early arrival is advised as capacity is strictly limited.

The fun kicks off at 12 noon on Sunday, August 2, with the music continuing until late.

Queens Park WMC honoured for community work



Queens Park WMC in Northampton was presented with a certificate by the Mayor of Northampton, Councillor Jane Birch, for its community work and charity fundraising

The Queens Park Working Men's Club in Northampton was recently presented with a certificate by the Council commending the club for its work in the community and charity fundraising.

Making the presentation in May to Club Secretary Brian Favell and Stewardess Julie Bodsworth was the

Mayor of Northampton, Councillor Jane Birch.

The club and its members are very committed to raising money for good causes and have made major donations to the Gosset Ward, the Special Care Baby Unit at Northampton Hospital, as well as installing a community defibrillator at the club.

Pangbourne Club enjoys a World Cup boost



The Pangbourne Club in Berkshire certainly made the most of the recent World Cup – not to mention the recent heat wave – by setting up an outside screen and viewing area at the front of the club, ensuring that members had a memorable time following England's progress to the semi-finals of the tournament

News in brief



Even Swindon Club in Wiltshire hosts summer fundraiser party for local hospice

The Even Swindon Club will be hosting a summer party in aid of the Prospect Hospice.

Taking place on Saturday, August 29 the event will feature DJs, an outside bar, food, children's tombola, cake stall, face painting and a raffle.

Entry is free and the fun gets underway at 1pm.



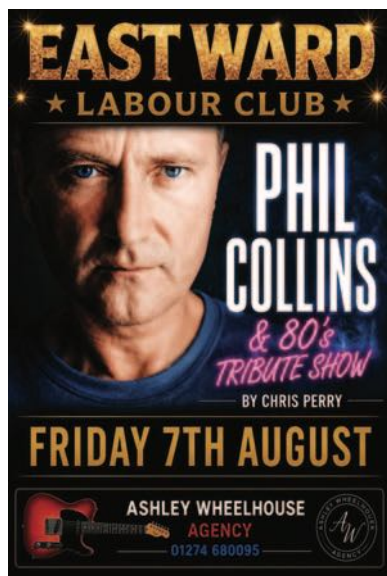
Mansel Working Men's Club to stage August Bank Holiday Special with music and comedy

Mansel Working Men's Club in South Wales is rolling out the red carpet this Bank Holiday Sunday (August 30) for what promises to be a spectacular night of community entertainment.

The evening's packed schedule features a comedian and singer, alongside the traditional club favourites of bingo and a raffle with plenty of great prizes up for grabs.

Tickets are available direct from the club and cost £5 each.

News in brief



East Ward Labour Club set for Phil Collins tribute performance on Friday, August 7

Chris Perry will be performing his Phil Collins tribute act at East Ward Labour Club in Leeds on Friday, August 7.

Expect all the big hits made famous by Collins as a solo artists in the 1980s, alongside some of the classics from his time as the singer in rock band Genesis.



Families to enjoy September Glow Night at Grendon Working Men's Club in Warwickshire

Grendon WMC in Warwickshire will be hosting a special Family UV Party on Saturday, September 12.

Guests will be treated to an amazing sensory experience with state-of-the-art ultraviolet lights and children's entertainment.

Tickets are £5 per child and £2.50 per adult – available from the club.

Harrowgate Club to host double Diamond tributes



Gary Ryan will be performing his Neil Diamond tribute show at the Harrowgate Club in Darlington on Saturday, December 12 and Saturday, December 19

A fantastic Christmas party is coming to the Harrowgate Club this December, with two special festive nights that promise glittering entertainment, a hot supper, and a tribute to one of music's greatest legends.

On Saturday, December 12 and Saturday, December 19, the Darlington club will transform into a winter wonderland of song and celebration, headlined by the internationally acclaimed performer Gary Ryan.

Ryan, who shot to fame with a hugely successful appearance on ITV's Stars In Their Eyes, has since built a remarkable career commanding some of the biggest theatres and stages around the world.

Today, he tours the UK's leading venues with his critically acclaimed celebration of the music and story of the legendary Neil Diamond – and now he's bringing that show to Darlington for these two exclusive dates.

Gary will be performing two sets on each night – the Celebration Show recreating the classic hits of Diamond and the Party Cabaret Set, a high-energy mix of singalong favourites.

Guests will also be served a hot supper and there will be a disco following the live show.

For more information, visit the Harrowgate Club's website: harrowgateclub.com

Cask Ale Week to take place September 17-27

Clubs are invited to take part in this year's Cask Ale Week (September 17-27) and help celebrate one of Britain's most distinctive and celebrated beer styles.

Taking place across thousands of clubs, pubs, bars and brewery taprooms nationwide, Cask Ale Week is an opportunity to showcase the quality, variety and value of cask ale.

There are many ways to get involved, from featuring additional cask ales on the bar and offering complimentary tasters, to hosting brewery visits, beer tastings or a cask-themed quiz.

Participating clubs can be included in Cask Ale Week promotions and benefit from increased visibility through the official events listings.

For more information, visit: caskaleweek.co.uk



Northallerton Workies stages musical spectacular



The Shandies were one of eight bands performing at WorkiesFest

Northallerton Working Men's Club was alive with music, laughter and a packed crowd on Sunday, July 26, as the club hosted its hugely successful WorkiesFest, an all-day celebration of live music that attracted fantastic support from members, guests and music lovers from across the area.

The event featured an impressive line-up of seven live acts, showcasing a wide range of musical styles and ensuring there was something for everyone throughout the day.

Compère Andy Kosicki kept the day running smoothly, introducing each act and maintaining the lively atmosphere between performances.

Taking to the stage were Persuaders, CeCe Monsoon, Formidable, Replicants, Shandies, Terri Mac and StephZ, with every performer receiving a warm reception from an enthusiastic audience.



Drag artiste CeCe Monsoon entertains the audience at Northallerton Working Men's Club

News in brief



Legendary Beastie Boys rapper Mike D plays gig at King Street Social Club in North Shields

King Street Social Club in North Shields received a visit from rapping royalty as Beastie Boys co-founder Mike D played a sold-out gig on the club's stage in July.

"Thank you North Shields for hosting us!" he wrote on social media following the concert.

"I can't tell you how happy we were visiting the hidden treasure that is North Shields."

Mike D praised King Street Social Club for preserving its character while embracing new audiences and new music.

"Thank you for changing and not changing," he wrote. "You've opened your doors to new music and new people but kept your period decor intact."

OBITUARY

Brian Batty

With a heavy heart, Bradgate Working Men's Club in Rotherham announces that our President, Brian Batty, passed away peacefully on Thursday, July 16 2026.

Brian was a huge part of the club, joining the Committee in March 1969.

He took over the role of Vice-President in 1982 then President in 2016 and serving 57 years on the Committee.

For many years he read out the questions on quiz nights to a full concert room, experiencing difficulties with a few tongue twisters and gaining the nickname of 'Bamber'.

His smile, laughter and sense of humour lit up the room and he will be desperately missed by everyone at Bradgate Club.

Our thoughts are with Nadine, Ian and all the family at this very sad time.

His funeral will take place at Grenoside Crematorium on Thursday, August 6 at 11.30am.



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BBC presenter opens balcony at Groby Ex-Servicemen's club



BBC Radio Leicestershire host Ady Dayman and daughter Eden at Groby Ex-Servicemen's Club

Groby Ex-Servicemen's Club welcomed members, guests and local residents for a Summer Sunday Spectacular on Sunday, July 26 with live music, the official grand opening of its newly added balcony and a fantastic community atmosphere.

The afternoon event attracted a strong turnout as visitors gathered to enjoy live entertainment, refreshments and the unveiling of the club's latest improvement.

The highlight of the afternoon was the official opening of the new balcony by BBC Radio Leicestershire personality Ady Dayman, who joined club members to mark the occasion and praised the club's continued investment in its facilities.

Live entertainment throughout the afternoon was provided by popular local performer Mister Crow, whose solo show kept the audience entertained with a mix of classic favourites and singalong hits. The performance helped create a lively atmosphere as members relaxed outdoors and made full use of the club's new balcony area.

Guests were also treated to a selection of delicious canapés prepared by

EdithJames Catering, adding to the celebratory feel of the event.

Club Secretary Nathan Clarke described the afternoon as "a tremendous success" and said that the balcony at the front of the club has been an immediate hit among members.

The event forms part of the club's ongoing commitment to providing new facilities and varied entertainment for members throughout the year.

The addition of the balcony gives the club an attractive outdoor space that can be enjoyed during future social events and live performances.

Members praised everyone involved in organising the afternoon, from the entertainers and catering team to the volunteers who helped ensure everything ran smoothly.

Following the success of the Summer Sunday Spectacular, Groby Ex-Servicemen's Club is already looking forward to hosting more events that bring together members, families and the wider local community in the months ahead.

News in brief



Barnsley Central Working Men's Club set for Party in the Park in aid of local charity

Barnsley Central Working Men's Club is preparing to welcome families from across the local community for its annual Party in the Park, promising an afternoon packed with entertainment, activities and great value on Saturday, August 8.

Running from 1pm until 7pm, the popular summer event will transform the club into a family-friendly festival, with something to entertain visitors of all ages.

The line-up includes live music throughout the afternoon, alongside bouncy castles, face painting, food and refreshments, with organisers promising plenty of additional attractions to ensure a memorable day out.

Advance tickets are now available from the club, priced at just £3, offering a £2 saving on the £5 admission charge on the gate.

Children aged under 16 can attend free of charge, making the event an affordable way for families to enjoy a full afternoon of entertainment.

Club officials are encouraging members and local residents to purchase tickets in advance to take advantage of the discounted price and help make the most of one of the club's biggest community events of the summer.

With live entertainment, children's activities and a welcoming atmosphere, Party in the Park is expected to attract another strong turnout and continue Barnsley Central WMC's tradition of bringing the community together through family-focused events.

There will also be a tombola to raise money for the local branch of the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA).

The RDA supports disabled people through riding programmes that promote well-being, physical health and confidence.



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CIU clubs urged to enter the 2026 Club Awards

The Club Awards are still open for entries with the deadline being extended to August 14! Take a look at the outstanding CIU success stories at last year's Awards below. Could you and your club become a 2026 title holder?

[Click here for details and how to enter](#)

2025 CIU Clubs' Hall of Fame

CIU CLUB OF THE YEAR

High Green Club (North)
Sheerness East Working Men's Club (South)

FAMILY CLUB OF THE YEAR

Groby Ex-Servicemen's Club

BUSINESS INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR

Lindley Liberal Club

BAR MANAGER / STEWARD OF THE YEAR

Midland Band Social Club - David Bellamy

MANAGER / SECRETARY OF THE YEAR

The Oatlands - Lucy Hague

COMMUNITY CLUB OF THE YEAR

New Eltham Social Club

TURNAROUND CLUB OF THE YEAR

Brookside Commercial Social Club

RACING CLUB OF THE YEAR

Beechwood Easterside & District Social Club

DARTS CLUB OF THE YEAR

Clacton Railway Club

CHARITY CLUBS OF THE YEAR

Beechwood Easterside & District Social Club
Skegness Ex-Services Club



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Chirton Social Club
in North Shields

Chirton Social Club

The Chirton Social Club in North Shields continues to be an integral part of its local community and has recently launched a new bingo innovation – the ‘Double Flyer’ – that rival venues are scrambling to copy. We talked to Club Secretary Emma Patterson about how the club is faring

In an era when many working men's clubs are fighting hard to maintain their place at the heart of their communities, one North Shields institution is achieving that aim through sheer ingenuity, relentless energy and a bingo idea so good that other local clubs and pubs have been queuing up to pinch it.

Chirton Social Club, on the outskirts of North Shields town centre, has long been a central pillar of the local social scene and the club is currently experiencing something of a renaissance thanks to its

excellent Committee and staff.

New Secretary Emma Patterson has recently taken over the role from her father John and shares his determination to try new things as well as fulfil the club's deep-rooted commitment to the local community.

At the heart of this continuing success is the ‘Double Flyer’ – a bingo innovation that Emma devised one Thursday afternoon.

“I came up with it when I was sitting outside a Costa Coffee,” says Club Secretary Emma Patterson.

“I just thought, well, it'll be sort of

something different, and I hadn't seen it done before.”

The concept is brilliantly simple. Players buy a flyer (50p a ticket, or £3 for a book of six) and pay an extra £1 to have it stamped on the back. That pound goes into a jackpot known as the ‘Double Bubble’.

If a player calls a full house and has paid for the stamp, they win the normal house payout plus the jackpot – but only if they win on a double number (11, 22, 33, 44, 55, 66, 77 and 88).

“I went with the double numbers

as opposed to any others as there are only eight of them,” Emma explains.

“When you start the bingo game, the room is silent and then you hear the ‘oohs’ and ‘aahs’ as the doubles come out.

“It’s just really, really good fun and our members say that it really enhances our bingo sessions.”

She adds: “Whenever someone wins on the double, they always get a round of applause and a cheer from around the room.”

So successful has the Double Flyer proven that other local venues have quickly followed suit.

A nearby rival, was among the first to adopt it. Emma laughs: “They kept coming in as I launched it, and I thought they’re gonna pinch this.

“Then sure enough, the next day their Secretary got in touch with us to say they were going to follow suit!”

Now, many pubs in the local area have also started running their own versions.

“Everyone around here seems to be doing the Double Flyer,” Emma says with a mix of pride and amusement.

“We may have to put a big sign which says: “The Chirton Club – original home of the Double Flyer”!

Emma hopes that by sharing the Double Flyer idea in *Club Journal*,

other clubs across the country might adopt it too.

Chirton Club is far from a one-trick pony though and alongside the bingo which takes place five times a week – Friday night, Saturday night, Sunday afternoon, Monday night, and Wednesday afternoon – there are many reasons to come and enjoy a night in the club.

“Crowd Karaoke is always popular– I go around with a microphone and get everyone singing,” says Emma.

Saturday nights feature live singers in the Concert Room, while Sundays see karaoke in the lounge twice a month.

Midweek brings competitive sport with the club boasting an impressive six darts teams, two pool teams, and a snooker team.

Wednesday bingo is a more laid-back affair. “We do Play Your Cards Right and offer some novelty prizes, like a coconut or a pineapple,” Emma explains.

“We also run ‘Bastard Bingo’ on a Wednesday. Everyone who wants to play buys a ticket and then stands up. If the number on your ticket comes out, you have to sit down and shout ‘Bastard’ – and then you’re out!

“And another nice thing we do is that when a certain song comes on



Club member George Cook counts his bingo winnings

during the karaoke night, if you can get to the bar before it ends, you can get a Jägerbomb for a discounted price.

“The song lasts two minutes and 21 seconds so there’s always a rush to the bar when they hear the song intro.

“We really try and make sure that the club is a fun environment so that members really look forward to coming down and having a drink with their friends.”

The club’s commitment to the local community underpins everything they



Live music is held regularly at the club

CLUB OF THE MONTH

Bingo is a mainstay of club life



do, including holding regular events for the old people's home across the road.

The club also has its own lending library and a jigsaw exchange.

"I got into jigsaws during lockdown and had a load of them at home," says Emma.

"So, I brought them into the club when it reopened and it really took off with members taking them home, completing them and then bringing them back for someone else to borrow.

"Lots of people started bringing their own jigsaws in to lend out and it has really taken off."

"It's a constant merry-go-round of them coming in and going back out. It's been brilliant."

The club is also a leading member of the local PubWatch scheme, with Emma taking on the administration duties for the group which works to ensure that all the town's licensed premises are safe environments for members and customers.

The club's community role was further recognised when it secured a government grant through North

Tyneside Council, enabling new signage on the front of the club.

"We're absolutely delighted to have been awarded the grant which was part of a scheme to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the founding of North Shields," says Emma.

"It was hard work to complete the application but we clearly demonstrated our value to the local community and now have a smart new sign.

"We have also just resurfaced the car park at the front of the club so the club looks great."

Chirton Club's strength lies not only in its innovative secretary but also in its experienced Committee.

Emma herself has been at the club for over 12 years, having started as Stewardess before being voted in as Secretary when her father, John Patterson, retired.

Meanwhile, Club Chairman Ken Herron is closing in on his 50-year Distinguished Service Award.

"We've got a few people on the Committee who've served the club for several decades, so it's fantastic to be able to tap into that experience

and ask for advice when you need it," says Emma.

"We've got a really good mix of men and women on the Committee, while our youngest Committee Member, Megan Herron – who is the granddaughter of our Chairman – is just 22 and helps to bring a more youthful insight into meetings when we are planning activities and events.

"It's a proper family sort of place. Everyone's grown up here and we all love the club and want to make sure that it continues to flourish and contribute to local life.

"I'm just continuing the excellent work carried out by my dad over so many years."

To underline the strong family ethos of the club, there is a third Patterson heavily involved with the club – Emma's daughter Amy – who works behind the bar.

Emma is under no illusion about the challenges facing clubs today.

"Gone are the days where CIU clubs could offer drinks at a lower price point than pubs," she says.

"Now it's the other way around – pubs are generally part of a big chain

Sunday regulars enjoying themselves in the club



and can get bulk deals across all their venues.

“But clubs offer something different and we’re finding that people of all ages really enjoy coming in and taking part in the various activities we offer.

“Initially some young people can be wary about coming into a members’ club that they’re not familiar with but they soon realise that there is something for everyone and that we offer a really welcoming environment.

“You’ll get groups of people coming into the club at different times – maybe having a couple of drinks with

us before heading off to another venue.

“We also have pigeon racing and leek growing sections at the club who meet regularly and hold events at specific times of the year.

“Each year during the summer, there is a competitive Leek Show and we have also held pigeon auctions here.”

As you might expect given that the club is situated in the football-mad North East, live sport is a big draw for the club.

“Obviously the majority of our members are Newcastle United fans so we show all their games on Sky Sports.

“We have quite a few season ticket holders at the club so they will come in for a drink before heading to St James’s Park.

“There were some fantastic midweek matchnights last season as Newcastle were in the Champions League but sadly they are not competing in Europe this season.

“We also had some busy nights during the recent World Cup with everyone getting behind the England team.

“In addition, many members are into racing and enjoy watching the action during the week and at

weekends.”

Charity is another important part of club life and regular fundraising events are held at the club in aid of the Newcastle-based Charlie Bear Cancer Appeal.

The club has also installed a defibrillator and runs familiarisation sessions for local people who want to learn how to use the equipment.

With a packed calendar, a committed Committee, and a bingo innovation that’s taking Tyneside by storm, Chirton Social Club is a shining example of how modern social clubs can thrive by embracing new ideas while staying true to their community roots.

The last word goes to Emma Patterson, official originator of the Double Flyer: “As a Committee, we’re always working hard to innovate and come up with more reasons for members to come in and have a great time in the club.”



CONTACT DETAILS

Chirton Social Club
Silkeys Lane
North Shields
NE29 0JT
Tel: 0191 2577663
Branch: Northumberland

HQ

News in brief

Updated Constitution and Rules of the CIU available to download at www.ciu.org.uk

The full Union Constitution is available to download in Word and PDF formats at www.ciu.org.uk.

In addition, in order to assist Committee Members in the running of their club, and to ensure that they adhere to the Rules of the CIU, the Rules are also available to download.

Among other headings there are explanations and Rules concerning the following within this booklet:

- Conditions of Membership
- Annual Fee
- Gaming Machines
- Register of Members
- Club Management

National Executive Committee dates

The remaining NEC meetings at Head Office for 2026 will take place on:
September 2/3, October 14/15 and December 2/3.

CIU Conference 2027 dates

Friday, April 16 – CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition

Saturday, April 17 – The 163rd Annual Meeting

Find out if a club is a member of the CIU

To find other Union clubs, use the search facility on the official website: ciu.org.uk.

There are several areas that can be searched in order to find clubs, general information on the CIU and *Club Journal* articles in our archive which goes back to 2011.

There is also a map facility that is available which enables you to find a CIU club in a particular area.

Revised handbooks and contracts now available



The CIU has fully revised and updated its range of handbooks and contracts.

The following are now available from your local branch:

- Club Handbook 2026
- Club Secretary's Handbook 2026
- Contract of Employment 2026 – Bar & Cleaning Staff
- Contract of Employment 2026 – Bar Manager

- Contract of Employment 2026 – Temporary Bar / Cleaning Staff (Absence Cover)
- Contract of Employment 2026 – Temporary Bar/Cleaning Staff (Time Dependent)
- Contract of Employment 2026 – Club Secretary
- Contract of Employment 2026 – Club Steward

Prices remain unchanged at £5 per handbook and £3 per contract.

Government announces a cut in business rates for 32,000 licensed venues

The Government has announced that it will cut business rates for nearly 32,000 clubs, pubs and music venues from next April which it says will save the average venue £1,100 a year



The Government says that the cut in business rates will benefit 32,000 licensed premises

The Government has announced that it will cut business rates bills for social clubs, pubs and live music venues across England from April next year.

It says that this is part of a wider plan to “drive good growth in every postcode by reducing the burden on local businesses, boosting investment on high streets and helping communities to thrive.”

This announcement follows the earlier representation to the Government by the CIU urging that social clubs should be included in any future support measures for licensed premises.

A Government statement said that: “New business rate cuts will benefit nearly 32,000 pubs, clubs and live music venues, saving the typical pub an estimated £1,100 in the next financial year, providing much-needed certainty for businesses looking to invest, grow and create jobs.”

It added that the changes will be “fully funded” by reviewing reliefs for businesses that it says do not make a positive contribution to local communities, such as vape shops.

Furthermore, the Government also says that it will also crack down on businesses that sell through online marketplaces but do not comply with their tax obligations, putting them at an unfair advantage over businesses that play by the rules.

The Government is consulting on measures to make

online marketplaces more responsible for preventing non-compliant sellers from avoiding their tax obligations and stated that further details will be set out in due course.

It added that revenue raised from these reforms will be reinvested in improvements to the business rates system.

Prime Minister Andy Burnham said: “For too long, governments have stood by while cherished venues have disappeared from our local high streets. So today I am changing that.

“This Government will back the businesses that people want to see in their communities.

“I said I would protect pubs and local high streets – the beating heart of our communities – and that’s what we will do.

“What we’re announcing today is just the start as we work to bring back hope across the country.”

Chancellor of the Exchequer John Healey, added: “Pubs, clubs and live music venues are at the heart of communities across the UK.

“They help make a place what we love. They bring people together, support local jobs and help keep high streets and town centres busy — which is why we will back them all the way.

“We are determined to bring hope back, give businesses the support they need and generate growth in every postcode.”

Working for the good of our clubs

Here's an in-depth look at the many services and benefits offered by the CIU to our affiliated clubs, including legal advice, the chance to learn about club law and finance through the Union's Education Programme and the opportunity to attend events such as the annual Beer & Trades Exhibition and Charity Raceday

Advice and Help for Clubs

Affiliated clubs can take advantage of the resources of the CIU through their local Branch Secretary and from Head Office with assistance offered in legal proceedings where matters of club principles are involved. The Union produces a series of contracts and handbooks which take in the current legislative requirements, including the Club Secretary Handbook which is regularly updated to include the most recent changes to employment law. The Union also runs an Arbitration Training programme.

Education

The Award in Club Management (ACM) is a qualification which comprises three self-contained units, each taking one day of classroom-based study to complete. Unit 1 covers Law & Regulations, Licensing, Unit 2 covers Other Law and Regulations and Unit 3 covers Management, Finance and Administration. The course is open to all CIU members but is particularly aimed at people who are going to be sitting on club committees and occupying positions of authority within clubs for the first time.

Club Journal/Clubjournal.co.uk

Club Journal is the Union's official online monthly magazine and is a must-read for CIU members. Each month the magazine features news from around the branches, club profiles, opinion columns from leading Union figures, business-building advice from the experts, sporting news and results, plus details of the CIU Racing Club discounts available to members. There is also an associated website at: clubjournal.co.uk to ensure that club members are kept up to date with all the latest news.

Charity

CIU clubs are at the forefront of raising funds for an array of national and local charities with members getting involved in a range of activities – from charity darts marathons and sponsored bike rides to special fundraising concerts and entertainment nights. As well as countless local charities, many national charities benefit from CIU events that are held throughout the year at our clubs, including the Alzheimers Society, the British Heart Foundation and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Lobbying on Behalf of Clubs

Union officials have been at the forefront of helping shape legislation across a number of areas of crucial importance to clubs through the CIU's involvement with the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Non-Profit Making Private Members' Clubs. This group, which meets regularly at Westminster, gives the Union direct access to both Members of Parliament and Peers from across the political spectrum. The CIU also plays a leading role in the Committee of Registered Clubs Association (CORCA).

Rules

The CIU Rules Department deal with all matters relating to rules on behalf of clubs, the Union and the Branches. The preparation of all rule changes for the approval of the club members, the registration with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the printing through the Union's printer, are all dealt with by the team at Head Office. Head Office also deals with clubs' affiliation to the Union. For further information, contact the Union's Head of Rules and Affiliations Vera Palazova.





Events - CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition

Staged during Conference Weekend in April, the CIU Beer & Trades Exhibition provides a fantastic opportunity for club delegates to attend a free trade show which is specifically targeted at the needs of CIU clubs. The show provides a great day out for club men and women, as the many exhibitors – including several of the CIU's Preferred Suppliers – showcase their services and products to attendees and demonstrate how they can help increase revenues and save money on running costs at their clubs.

The CIU Racing Club

The CIU Racing Club enables clubs to take advantage of special discounted tickets for club outings to a variety of Arena Racing Company (ARC) racecourses across the country. There are a number of fixtures throughout the year for which CIU members can obtain their discounted ticket packages, as well as exciting 'one-off' offers and packages, including racedays at some of the country's top racing venues including Bath, Chepstow, Doncaster and Newcastle.

CIU National Lottery Draw

The CIU National Lottery Draw, which launched at the end of 2023, gives Union members the opportunity to win significant cash prizes by purchasing tickets online via their computers or smartphones. The funds raised by the CIU National Lottery Draw help to fund the vital work undertaken by the CIU in support of its member clubs across the country. Already many Union members have won cash prizes of £2,500. To take part, go to the website: ciu.praxisplay.online/signin

CIU Official Website

The CIU's official website (www.ciu.org.uk) provides a wealth of information regarding the activities going on throughout the Union, as well as contact details for Head Office and Branch personnel. It also has a 'Breaking News' section which will keep you abreast of the latest Government legislation concerning members' clubs, as well as links to the Union's various Preferred Suppliers. It also has a regularly updated database of all the clubs affiliated to the CIU.

Events - Dransfields CIU National Charity Raceday

Dransfields CIU National Charity Raceday is an annual event, now held at Doncaster Racecourse in November. This is one of the highlights of the CIU calendar and gives Union members the chance to enjoy a fantastic day out and raise money for the CIU's Education Programme. The CIU also runs an annual Greyhound Racing Night each September in Sheffield at the iconic Owlerton Stadium. See this issue for details of the 2026 events.

PRS for Music Tariff

The CIU has negotiated a special discount for its clubs with the Performing Right Society (PRS for Music) which collects and distributes licence fees for the use of music on behalf of songwriters, composers and performers. The PRS for Music licence covers music played through radios, CDs, streaming on the internet, music on TVs and also live music performances. The tariff for Members' Clubs is negotiated annually and placed in *Club Journal*. It can also be downloaded from the CIU website: www.ciu.org.uk





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bocgases.co.uk

Why not boost your club's administration skills with the CIU's ACM?

The Award in Club Management (ACM) enables CIU club officials to gain a thorough grounding in the skills associated with running a club. If you would like to host future ACM sessions at your club, or share sessions with clubs in your area, please get in touch with Catherine Fitzpatrick at Head Office



The ACM course is taught by experienced club administrators over three day sessions covering the three units

The Union's Award in Club Management (ACM) course is specifically designed for people running CIU clubs and aims to give club officials a thorough grounding in the key aspects of managing a club with maximum efficiency.

The qualification consists of three self-contained units, each taking one day of classroom-based study to complete.

Unit 1 of the course covers Law & Regulations, Licensing, Unit 2 covers Law and Regulations (Part 2) and Unit 3 covers Management, Finance and Administration.

Once a candidate has completed the course and been examined in all three units through a multiple choice examination at the end of each unit, they receive the ACM.

The course is primarily aimed at

people who are going to be sitting on club committees and occupying positions of authority within clubs for the first time.

It has been developed to ensure that candidates gain a thorough understanding of licensing laws and regulations relating to members' clubs, as well as a whole host of other laws and regulations that govern the running of a club, including entertainment, the various copyright permissions required and the rules and regulations surrounding gaming machines in clubs.

The lectures are carried out by highly experienced lecturers from within the CIU – including Union General Secretary Kenneth D Green CMD ACM and Union President Ken Roberts CMD ACM – who lead the day sessions and can draw from

their knowledge of the club scene to illustrate the key points and explore real-life scenarios and problems which can crop up at members' clubs.

If you have a minimum of 10 participants from your club or a combination from clubs in your surrounding area, the ACM course will come to you.

The three self-contained units will be delivered by Union lecturers over three Saturdays of your choice at your club – or a combination of clubs in your area if that is a more practical arrangement.

Please contact Senior Administrator Cath Fitzpatrick at the CIU Head Office on 020 7226 0221 or email: **Catherine.Fitzpatrick@wmcui.org** to discuss hosting a future series of day sessions at your club or with fellow CIU clubs.



Do you want a chance to win some fantastic cash prizes in 2026?
Buy your tickets now! Our subscription draw gives you the
opportunity to win big while also helping a great cause.

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Our online contest to win includes a method of free entry via post, please see T&C's for details. No purchase is necessary to enter but the intention of the raffle is to support the works of the CIU.

Only gamble responsibly.

CIU Licence Number LN/000023921

Get involved with the CIU National Lottery

The CIU National Lottery is a great way to support your club and your Union as well as give yourself the chance to win some fantastic cash prizes, as well as regular opportunities to win beer and other prizes

The CIU National Lottery gives Union members the opportunity to win significant cash prizes or prizes each month with tickets available to buy online via their computers or smartphones.

The next Draw takes place at 7pm on **Tuesday, September 1** and will be a 50/50 Draw which will also see 5% of the total revenue raised going to the winner's club.

Q: How do I buy tickets?

A: It's a very simple process:

- Create an account at **ciu.praxis-play.online**
- Add funds to your account
- Receive email confirming you have added money to your account.
- Buy tickets by selecting **PLAY** on the raffle you wish to purchase tickets
- Receive an email confirming your tickets purchase, including ticket numbers. This will be sent by email in a PDF attachment and you can also see tickets in your account.

Q: What happens if I forget my password?

A: You can reset your password at any time by clicking in the reset password link on the screen.

Q: Is there a cap on the amount I can spend?

A: Yes – the maximum number of tickets you can buy is 20 tickets.

Q: Is there a minimum or maximum amount that I have to keep on my account?

A: You only need credit in your account to buy tickets for the draws. Tickets are just £1 each.

Q: What happens to my personal data?



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A: Praxis is ICO registered and has full GDPR statement in the T&C's & log-in/sign up process.

Q: I don't own a smartphone. Can I still play the CIU Raffle?

A: Yes. Please go online to **ciu.praxisplay.online** and sign up to create an online account and play the CIU Raffle.

Q: How will I receive my winnings?

A: The Winners receive an email and

text confirming their win, along with payment into the client's CIU draw app account. The user can then withdraw the funds via the app account to another bank account.

Q: I have a technical issue with the App. Who do I contact?

A: In-app users can create a support ticket to resolve a query or call the CIU Head Office on 0207 226 0221 for help with any problems they encounter when buying a ticket.



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Buy a CIU Raceday/St Leger Day double ticket for just £35

Snap up some of these fantastic, great-value offers available exclusively to CIU members, including a £35 double ticket to the CIU Raceday on November 28 and St Leger Day on September 12



You can enjoy St Leger Day on September 12 and Dransfields CIU National Charity Day on November 28 for the special price of £35

The CIU is delighted to announce a fantastic set of new deals with Arena Racing Company (ARC), the UK's largest racecourse group.

These deals open the gates to some of the most famous tracks in the country, from historic Doncaster (home of the St Leger Festival) to the seaside spectacle of Brighton, the all-weather action of Wolverhampton and the premier jumps circuits at Lingfield Park and Fontwell Park.

Whether you love the Flat, the National Hunt, or a great day out with friends and club colleagues, ARC's 16 venues offer world-class sporting drama right on your doorstep.

As part of this exclusive tie-up, CIU members can unlock four great-value offers.

You have a choice of more than 500 racedays to enjoy! Highlights include a whole host of family fun days, live music events and stylish Ladies Days.

*Exclusions apply. See Ts & Cs at website below for details.

The Offers

Offer 1 (Sunday - Friday fixtures): Grandstand Ticket – only £10!*

Offer 2 (Saturday fixtures): Grandstand Ticket – only £15!*

Offer 3 (St Leger Day & CIU Raceday): Doncaster Double Header Grandstand Ticket – only £35!*

Take advantage of this very special CIU ticket bundle which will give you access to the 250th St Leger Day on Saturday, September 12, plus the Dransfields CIU National Charity Raceday on Saturday, November 28.

For both of these fantastic racedays, you will have access to the grandstand, pre-parade ring, parade

ring, grandstand public bars, grandstand eateries, main betting hall and outlets and food court.

The St Leger is of the world's oldest Classic horse race and St Leger Day is the premier day of the world-famous four-day festival (Sept 10-13) featuring top-tier racing, live entertainment and high-fashion.

Offer 4 (Select Fixtures): 25% off Restaurant Packages at Greyhound Racing!*

TO BOOK ONLINE

- Go to the dedicated website below
- Select Your Racecourse/Greyhound Track
- Select Your Fixture
- Click 'Book Now!'

For help booking over the phone, please call 01302 304200

For more information, visit:
arenaracingcompany.co.uk/offers/ciu

What's going on in wine?

Preferred Supplier Greene King looks at the latest trends in wine and highlights the steps you can take to ensure that you maximise profitability in the category



White wine has seen the biggest uplift in the category while red has witnessed the biggest decline

If it feels like members are ordering less wine, you're not imagining it. The win for wine isn't "more volume" – it's more value.

Consumers are increasingly choosing one better drink when they do go out. Fifty six per cent of consumers are moderating their alcohol intake and more people are choosing one super-premium drink vs last year.

As premiumisation continues, guests trade down on quantity but up on quality and experience. Wine must feel like the "treat choice", not a risky or complicated selection.

Make wine feel premium, without changing your whole range by picking one or two "hero" wines by the glass and sell them like you mean it.

How

Put them top of the list with a one-line

descriptor (taste plus occasion).

Serve in great glassware at the right temperature.

Add a tiny story: region, producer, "why it's worth it".

The wine mix is changing

Wine's share in the on-trade has been in long-term decline, but insights show recent stability returning – and there are signals wine can still win when it's made easy and relevant. Ensure your range is stocking the wine categories that have momentum.

What's moving in wine right now?

White wine has seen the biggest uplift in the category.

Red has witnessed the biggest decline.

Rosé is positioned as a growth opportunity, helped by seasonal demand.

Build your list around what members are choosing – your "engine room" should be white, plus rosé by the glass – the styles guests are leaning into. Then make red easier to say "yes" to, defend the classics and link to food-led occasions.

Wine menu

Refresh your by-the-glass selection: one crisp white, plus one aromatic/interesting white, plus one rosé you can shout about.

Give profitable and exciting brands menu standout.

Keep reds tight and pairing-led ("best with steak pie", "great with burgers").

Recruitment

Get more people choosing wine when they're out.

Wine growth increasingly comes

from recruitment and experimentation – especially in lively, social occasions, with 43% of consumers drinking wine when out (+5% vs last year).

Key occasions unlock trial and trade-up opportunities.

Make wine the easiest “new thing to try” during high-footfall moments with three simple trial triggers:

- Wine of the Week – one-glass recommendation that changes often
- Mini flights – 3 × 75ml “try something new” (ideal for sharing and experimenting)
- Pair it with food – “Rosé and loaded fries” or “Smooth red & burger”

Gen Z and lighter drinking

Gen Z is still new to wine, with over half starting to consume wine within the past year* – that’s a great opportunity if your menu speaks their language.

Younger consumers are less likely to choose by type or variety; they rely on flavour descriptions, health credential and bottle design.

Swap grape names for flavour cues to match how younger consumers are choosing.

Instead of Sauvignon Blanc/Pinot Grigio/Shiraz, try:

“Crisp and citrus”

“Fruity and chilled (easy drinking)”

“Smooth and warming (best with burgers)”

Health priorities and moderation are reshaping choices: 31% say leading a healthy lifestyle is a top priority.

Some 9% of bar-goers claim to take GLP-1 weight-loss medication, which is expected to grow, with implications for alcohol/sugar choices.

Try a lighter approach like smaller serves and championing lower ABV, lighter options such as spritz serves.

Two easy protections for wine sales are to offer 125ml as standard and add one spritz-style wine serve, positioned as “light & refreshing”.*

A 5-point wine growth plan

- Two hero wines by the glass (premium cues, top of list)
- White and rosé lead; reds simplified and pairing-led
- Menus speak in flavour, not just varietal
- Protect sales with smaller serves and lighter formats (spritz)
- Use events to recruit: Wine of the Week and mini flights or hearty pies

For further information about Greene King and its range of wines go to:

www.valueforvenues.co.uk

**Source: CGA by NIQ OPUS, June 2025*



Two easy ideas for wine sales are to offer 125ml as standard and add one spritz-style wine serve

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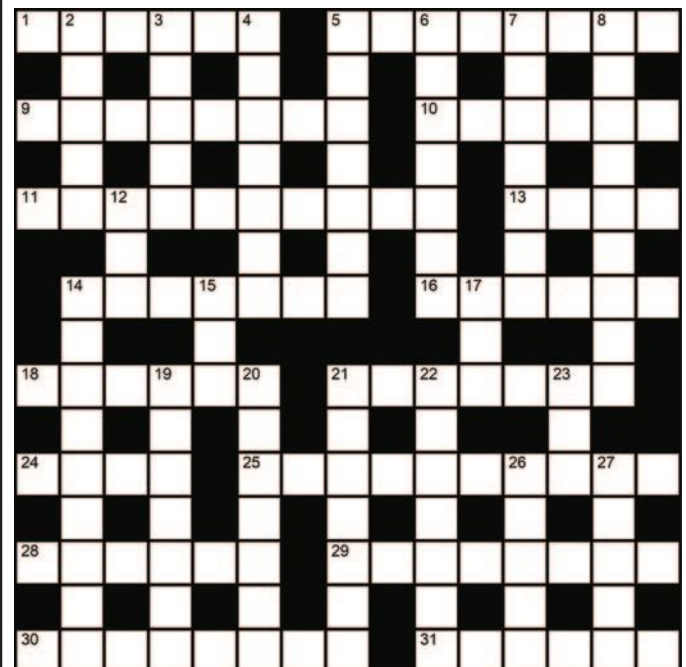
ACROSS

- 1 Come up to with a price, they say (6)
- 5 Reaching high like Steve McQueen's inferno? (8)
- 9 Ponder why the soup on the menu is off (4,4)
- 10 No huge changes needed, it'll be sufficient (6)
- 11 Post a piece about the Bishop's rule OK? (10)
- 13 Gala has the reputation of destiny (4)
- 14 Accomplished elk who slid all over the place? (7)
- 16 I just flail about like my offspring (6)
- 18 Household, planning to hop off the megaphone (6)
- 21 Poor farmer who only has a bit of a flowered neckerchief (7)
- 24 'Jail'? It's what you can do with porridge! (4)

DOWN

- 2 Big bunch does not produce a light gait! (5)
- 3 Servo applied sharply for sixes (5)
- 4 Pilot so upset by the loam (7)
- 5 One to hold one's ale, in a dark tan pattern (7)
- 6 Of which few, a hero can represent (7)
- 7 From Lou, oddly, comes a

- chamber packed with people (7)
- 8 H K, thawing out as a nocturnal type (9)
- 12 Sort of milky in my absence (3)
- 14 We discover an emu nest on the pudding list! (5,4)
- 15 Small volume put up to insulate (3)
- 17 Icon, about to lose a molecule (3)
- 19 My acorn grows into an initial-letter word (7)
- 20 Earl one might take to be a lady (7)
- 21 Use coin to rub out a line of no return (7)
- 22 Flaw, led to problems with the evening damp (7)
- 23 Gear spotted in cognito (3)
- 26 Wants a dense treatment (5)
- 27 Be liable to come out of a Turin curfew (5)



Name _____

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Crossword, Link Spaces,
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Premier League live TV fixtures announced for September

The broadcast selections have been announced by Sky Sports and TNT Sports for the Premier League matches in September, including the big Manchester Derby at Old Trafford on Sunday, September 13



There are some key Premier League ties coming up in September

The Premier League has released the TV fixtures for rounds 3, 4 and 5 of the competition with some notable ties taking place, including the Manchester Derby at Old Trafford on Sunday, September 13.

Meanwhile, on Sunday, September 6, Chelsea travel across to North London to take on reigning champions Arsenal at the Emirates.

Round 3 of the Premier League begins on Friday, September 4 at 8pm with Ipswich v Liverpool at Portman Road.

Televised fixtures in September

Friday, September 4, 8pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Ipswich v Liverpool

Saturday, September 5, 12.30pm, TNT Sports
Newcastle v Bournemouth

Saturday, September 5, 5.30pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Hull City v Aston Villa

Sunday, September 6, 2pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Everton v Manchester United

Sunday, September 6, 4.30pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Arsenal v Chelsea

Saturday, September 12, 5.30pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Tottenham Hotspur v Everton

Saturday, September 12, 8pm, TNT Sports
Sunderland v Arsenal

Sunday, September 13, 2pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Coventry City v Brighton

Sunday, September 13, 4.30pm,

Sky Sports Premier League
Manchester United v Manchester City

Monday, September 14, 8pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Leeds v Newcastle

Friday, September 18, 8pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Brentford v Chelsea

Saturday, September 19, 12.30pm, TNT Sports
Tottenham Hotspur v Aston Villa

Saturday, September 19, 5.30pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Nottingham Forest v Coventry City

Sunday, September 20, 2pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Bournemouth v Liverpool



Thursday, August 13, 8pm, Sky Sports+
Super League: Leeds Rhinos v Leigh Leopards

The Rhinos have been a force to be reckoned with this season and recorded 15 wins out of their first 18 matches to rocket to the top of the Super League table. The star men for Leeds so far have been Brodie Croft, Jake Connor and Ash Handley and it would not be a surprise to find one of the trio lifting the 'Man of Steel' trophy come the end of the season.



Wednesday, August 19, 10.30am, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: England v Pakistan, 1st Test

The Royal Birkdale Club hosts the Open Championship for the 11th time as the world's best players battle it out on an unforgiving landscape which is guaranteed to test the competitors' skills to the maximum. Last year saw the USA's Scottie Scheffler recording four sub-70 rounds, for a total of 267, to win his first Open and fourth major by four strokes over fellow American Harris English.



Friday, August 21, 8pm – Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Arsenal v Coventry City
Champions Arsenal host promoted Coventry City on the opening night of the Premier League season. Mikel Arteta's side claimed a long-awaited title in May and will be seeking a strong start to their defence as they take on Frank Lampard's Coventry City, back in the Premier League for the first time since suffering relegation in 2001.

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

With a pulsating World Cup just completed, the domestic football season gets underway in mid-August. Meanwhile in cricket, England take on Pakistan in a test series and The Hundred competition continues

Saturday, August 1, 2pm, Sky Sports Cricket

Cricket: The Hundred – Birmingham Phoenix vs Welsh Fire

Saturday, August 1, 3pm, Sky Sports+ Super League: Castleford Tigers v Warrington Wolves

Saturday, August 1, 5.30pm, Sky Sports+ Super League: York Knights v St Helens

Saturday, August 1, 6pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred – London Spirit v Southern Brave

Saturday, August 1, 8pm, Sky Sports+ Super League: Catalans Dragons v Wakefield Trinity

Sunday, August 2, 10.45am, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Women – Trent Rockets v SunRisers Leeds

Sunday, August 2, 2pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – Trent Rockets v SunRisers Leeds

Monday, August 3, 2.45pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Women – Welsh Fire v Southern Brave

Monday, August 3, 6pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – Welsh Fire v Southern Brave

Monday, August 3, 7pm, Sky Sports Football
Football: Scottish Premiership – Celtic v Dundee

Tuesday, August 4, 2.45pm, Sky Sports Cricket

Cricket: The Hundred Women – SunRisers Leeds vs London Spirit

Tuesday, August 4, 6pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – SunRisers Leeds v London Spirit

Wednesday, August 5, 3pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Women – Rockets v Phoenix

Wednesday, August 5, 6pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – Rockets v Phoenix

Thursday, August 6, 3pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Women – London Spirit vs MI London

Thursday, August 6, 6pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – London Spirit vs MI London

Thursday, August 6, 8pm, Sky Sports+ Super League: St Helens v Hull FC

Friday, August 7, 6pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – Phoenix vs SunRisers

Friday, August 7, 7.45pm, Sky Sports+ Football: Carabao Cup, 1st Round – Wolverhampton Wanderers v Port Vale

Friday, August 7, 8pm, Sky Sports Football
Football: Carabao Cup, 1st Round – Middlesbrough v Wrexham



Friday, August 7, 8pm, Sky Sports+
Super League: Castleford Tigers v Hull Kingston Rovers

Saturday, August 8, 10.45am, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Women – MI London v Trent Rockets

Saturday, August 8, 2pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – MI London vs Trent Rockets

Saturday, August 8, 3pm, Sky Sports+
Super League: Bradford Bulls v Warrington Wolves

Saturday, August 8, 5.30pm, Sky Sports Football
Football: Carabao Cup, 1st Round – Colchester United v Southampton

Saturday, August 8, 5.30pm, Sky Sports+
Super League: Wigan Warriors v Toulouse Olympique

Saturday, August 8, 7pm, Sky Sports
Boxing: IBF World Middleweight Title – Aaron McKenna v Etinosa Oliha

Sunday, August 9, 4pm, Sky Sports Football
Football: Carabao Cup, 1st Round – Mansfield Town v Sheffield United

Monday, August 10, 2.45pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Women – Trent Rockets v Southern Brave

Monday, August 10, 6pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – Trent Rockets v Southern Brave

Monday, August 10, 8pm, Sky Sports Football
Football: Carabao Cup, 1st Round – Plymouth Argyle v Exeter City

Tuesday, August 11, 3pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Women – Super Giants v SunRisers

Tuesday, August 11, 6pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – Super Giants v SunRisers

Wednesday, August 12, 2.30pm, Sky Sports Cricket
Cricket: The Hundred Men – Welsh Fire v London Spirit

Wednesday, August 12, 8pm, TNT Sports
Football: UEFA Super Cup – PSG v Aston Villa

Thursday, August 13, 8pm, Sky Sports+
Super League: Leeds Rhinos v Leigh Leopards

Friday, August 14, 8pm, Sky Sports+
Super League: Hull FC v Castleford Tigers

Saturday, August 15, 12.30pm, Sky Sports+
Championship Football: Bolton Wanderers v Preston North End

Saturday, August 15, 5.30pm, Sky Sports Football
Championship Football: Sheffield United v Birmingham City



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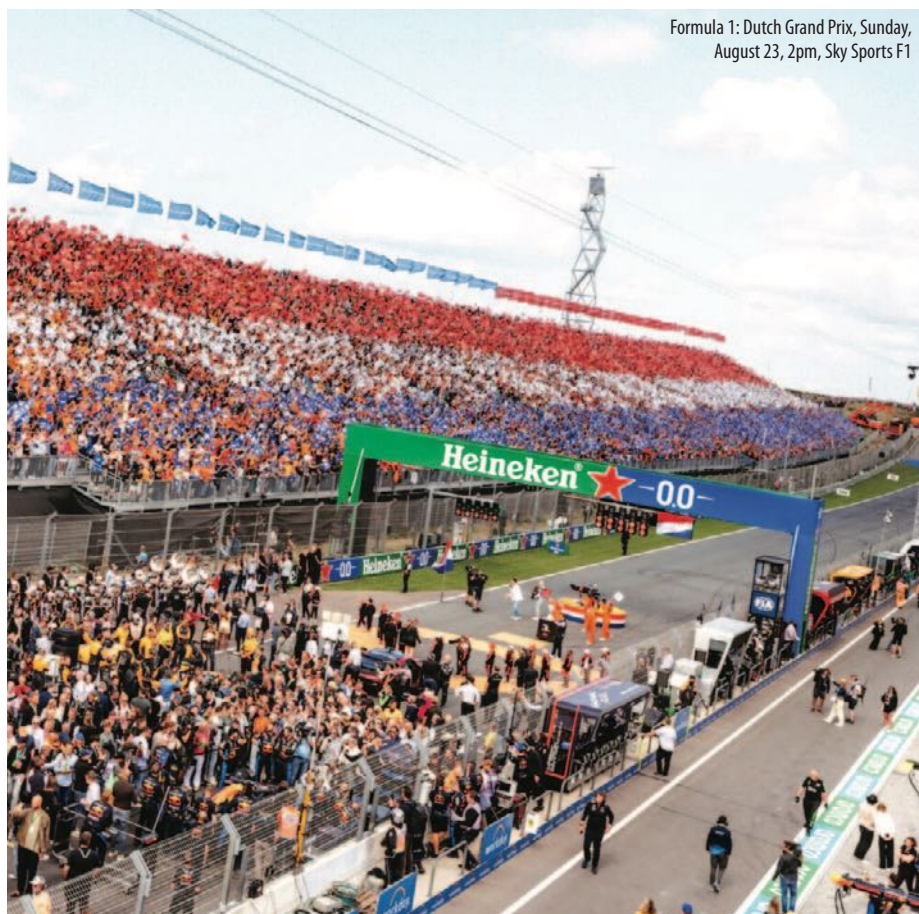
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Formula 1: Dutch Grand Prix, Sunday,
August 23, 2pm, Sky Sports F1

Saturday, August 15, 5.30pm, Sky Sports+
Super League: Wakefield Trinity v St Helens

Sunday, August 16, 1.30pm, Sky Sports Football
Championship Football: Watford v Southampton

Sunday, August 16, 3pm, TNT Sports
FA Community Shield: Arsenal v Manchester City

Sunday, August 16, 4pm, Sky Sports Football
Championship Football: Burnley v West Ham

Sunday, August 17, 8pm, Sky Sports Football
Championship Football: Cardiff City v Wrexham

Wednesday, August 19, 10.30am, Sky Sports Cricket
Test Cricket: England v Pakistan, 1st Test – Day 1

Friday, August 21, 8pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Arsenal v Coventry

Saturday, August 22, 12.30pm, TNT Sports
Premier League: Hull v Manchester United

Saturday, August 22, 5.30pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Brentford v Tottenham Hotspur

Sunday, August 23, 12 noon, Sky Sports Football
Championship Football: West Bromwich Albion v Burnley

Sunday, August 23, 2pm, Sky Sports F1
Formula 1: Dutch Grand Prix

Sunday, August 23, 2pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Brighton v Aston Villa

Sunday, August 23, 2pm, Sky Sports Main Event

Premier League: Manchester City v Bournemouth

Sunday, August 23, 4.30pm, Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Liverpool v Newcastle United

Monday, August 24, 8pm, Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Fulham v Chelsea

Wednesday, August 27, 10.30am, Sky Sports Cricket

Test Cricket: England v Pakistan, 2nd Test – Day 1

Friday, August 28, 8pm, Sky Sports Premier League

Premier League: Crystal Palace v Manchester City

Saturday, August 29, 12.30pm, TNT Sports

Premier League: Liverpool v Nottingham Forest

Saturday, August 29, 5.30pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur v Newcastle

Sunday, August 30, 2pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Chelsea v Brighton

Sunday, August 30, 2pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Leeds v Brentford

Sunday, August 30, 2pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Sunderland v Fulham

Sunday, August 30, 4.30pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Manchester United v Ipswich

Monday, August 31, 8pm, Sky Sports Premier League
Premier League: Aston Villa v Arsenal

Awards entry deadline approaches – August 14

CIU clubs have a proud tradition of success at the Club Awards, celebrating the very best of the Union's community-focused clubs. Haven't entered yet? Then now's the time. Every great club has a story. Make sure yours is told and enter today

So what makes a winner? Take a look at CIU club success stories from 2025. Here's what they won – and why.

CIU Club of the Year 2025 **Northern – High Green Club,** **South Yorkshire**



High Green, now in its 126th year, hosts live concerts every Friday and Sunday, bingo sessions, local games and snooker leagues. It offers a breadth of reasonably priced beers, wines, and spirits, welcoming members, players and visitors to its vibrant community hub.

Southern – Sheerness East **Working Men's Club**

Sheerness East is a true community hub, hosting blood donation sessions, dementia support, youth darts, and a deaf group. Events such as Easter parties and huge darts tournaments



Sheerness East



New Eltham Social Club

raise funds for charity, and the club fosters inclusion, providing social, and recreational opportunities for all ages.

Community Club of the Year **New Eltham Social Club**

Founded in 1892, the club blends its long-standing CIU traditions with a modern approach, becoming a thriving, award-winning hub for its 1,660 members.

Club Secretary of the Year **Lucy Hague, The Oatlands**

Lucy has led bar team recruitment, implemented dual pricing and



The Oatlands

automated membership cards, chaired the Bar Sub-Committee, reduced wastage and increased margins while maintaining member discounts.

Bar Manager of the Year **David Bellamy, Midland Band** **Social Club**

David has led his club to four consecutive CAMRA Northamptonshire Club of the Year awards consistently delivers outstanding service.

Family Club of the Year **Groby Ex-Servicemen's Club**

The vibrant heart of its Leicestershire village and with excellent facilities, family members of all ages are welcomed seven days a week.



Charity Club of the Year
Skegness Ex-Service Club

In 2025 fundraising included over £10k for Prostate Cancer UK, and thousands of pounds for the Poppy Appeal.

Charity Club Special Award
Beechwood Easterside & District Social Club

The club was praised for a unique community Fundraising Night which raised over £27k to help a member diagnosed with terminal cancer make more family memories.

Turnaround Club of the Year
Brookside Commercial Club



The club saw a dramatic reversal from a £3k operating loss to a £40k profit.

Racing Club of the Year
Beechwood Easterside & District Social Club

Horse racing is a permanent fixture on the club's screens, and 2025 saw seven coaches ferry almost 400 members to Thirsk Races.

Darts Club of the Year
Clacton Railway Club

The club's Youth Darts Academy now boasts over 50 children, building darts proficiencies alongside maths and social skills.

HOW TO ENTER

Enter online at www.clubawards.co.uk OR:

Type up your entry using the information requests below, and email the document to

sean@alchemymedia.co.uk OR:

Post it to: Club Awards/ACP, Link Spaces, Botanica, Ditton Park,
Riding Court Road, Datchet SL3 9LL • Deadline – August 14, 2026



CLUB INFORMATION

Your name and role in club: _____

Club name & address: _____

Contact phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Website and/or Social Media links: _____

Year club founded: _____

Number of members: _____

Approximate club turnover (not for publication): £ _____

YOUR ENTRY

Throw a spotlight on your/your club's achievements over the past 12 months? What makes it so special? Please provide as much information as possible to support your entry, and information supporting the categories you have chosen. Minimum 250 words; Maximum – 2,000 words. Supporting information could include, for example:

Biggest Successes and achievements; Greatest moments; Best Business Initiatives/Innovations; Role in the community

NOMINATING INDIVIDUALS?

Please send in: their name, role in the club and why they are being nominated?

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR ENTRY!

DEADLINE AUGUST 14, 2026. GOOD LUCK!

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- Cover for stock & contents
- Buildings cover

The scope of cover varies between policies and may include exclusions. We will provide clear explanations of any that apply.

Your dedicated CIU Contacts:

Seb Ridene, Business Development Manager
Committee Contact and Relationship Manager

Phone: 07867 377 810
Email: sebastien.ridene@bbrown.com

New Enquiries
Contact for all new quotes & enquiries

Phone: 01458 270 410
Email: CIU@bbrown.com

Renewal Team
Contact for all existing B&B-held CIU Clubs

Phone: 01458 270 303
Email: CIU@bbrown.com